# Attorney Docket No. 50019.261USI1/P056P01

## MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

## United States Patent Application

# COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors

are named below) of the subject ma COMPENSATION FOR SWITCH	ignal, hist and sold inventor ( iter which is claimed and for w ING REGULATORS.	hich a patent is sought o	n the inventi	on entitled: ADAPTIVE SLOPE	
The specification of which  a. \( \sum \) is attached hereto  b. \( \sum \) was filed on as application  described and claimed in internation  United States patent.	nal no. filed and as ame	ended on (if any), wh	ich I have re	of a PCT-filed application) wiewed and for which I solicit a	
any amendment referred to above.				cluding the claims, as amended by	
I hereby claim foreign priority bene certificate listed below and have all that of the application on the basis a. Mo such applications have be b. such applications have been	so identified below any foreign of which priority is claimed: een filed.	tes Code, § 119/365 of an application for patent or	ny foreign ap inventor's c	oplication(s) for patent or inventor's ertificate having a filing date before	
FOR	EIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY,	CLAIMING PRIORITY UNI	DER 35 USC §	119	
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		DATE OF ISSUE (day, manth, year)	
ALT. NODE	IGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, I	FILED BEFORE THE PRIO	RITY APPLIC	ATION(S)	
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	
below and, insofar as the subject t	natter of each of the claims of t graph of Title 35, United States al Regulations, § 1.56(a) which	this application is not dis Code. § 112. I acknowle	closed in the dec the duty	r international application(s) listed prior United States application in the to disclose material information as the prior application and the national	
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	R DATE OF FILIN	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)		STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)	
10/703,960	November 7, 2003	November 7, 2003		pending	
I hereby claim the benefit under I	Fille 35, United States Code §	119(e) of any United Stat	es provisions	al application(s) listed below:	
U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER		D	DATE OF FILING (Day, Momb, Year)		
.,,					

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I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

### § 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Bach individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
  - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facic case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (c) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

408 721 3441 P.04/05

I hereby appoint the following attorncy(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Ali, M. Jeffer	Reg. No. 46,359	T TO 11 M	D 37 45 000
Altera, Allan G.	Reg. No. 40,274	Laucr, Deakin T.	Reg. No. 47,892
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828	Leach III, Thomas J.	Reg. No. P-53,188
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lconard, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 41,940
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	Lewis, George C.	Reg. No. 53,214
Berns, John M.	Reg. No. 43,496	Liepa, Mara E.	Reg. No. 40,066
Blackburn, Murrell W.	Reg. No. 50,881	McDonald, Daniel W.	Rcg. No. 32,044
Bortolotti, Rebecca	Reg. No. 51,488	McIntyre, Jr., William F.	Reg. No. 44,921
Brown, Jeffrey C.	Reg. No. 41,643	Mueller, Douglas P.	Reg. No. 30,300
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Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404	Parsons, Nancy J.	Reg. No. 40,364
Campbell, Kcith	Reg. No. 46,597	Pauly, Daniel M.	Reg. No. 40,123
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247	Pcterson, Kyle T.	Reg. No. 46,989
Cook, Jeffrey	Reg. No. 48,649	Phillips, John B.	Reg. No. 37,206
Daignault, Ronald A.	Reg. No. 25,968	Pino, Mark J.	Reg. No. 43,858
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Daley, William J.	Reg. No. 52,471	Randall, Joshua N.	Reg. No. 50,719
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Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Sullivan, Timothy	Reg. No. 47,981
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Gresons, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
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Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Wier, David D.	Reg. No. 48,229
Hope, Leonard J.	Reg. No. 44,774	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
Hornsby, III, Alton	Reg. No. 47,299	Withers, James D.	Reg. No. 40,376
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Johns, Nicholas P.	Reg. No. 48,995	Wong, Bryan A.	Reg. No. 50,836
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Lamberty, Michael	Reg. No. 50,760		
Larson, James A.	Reg. No. 40,443		

In addition, I also hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith:

Byrne, Christopher J.	Reg. No. 32,204	Tremain, Allen	Rcg. No. 40,207
Conser, Eugene	Reg. No. 39,149	Viger, Andrew S.	Ret. No. 28.552

Maxin, John Reif, Coleman Reg. No. 34,668 Reg. No. 38,593 Wang, Peter Y.

Reg. No. 40,452

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Mcrchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Mcrchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

#### Customer Number 23552

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Nume	Family Name	First Given Name	Second Given Name		
	Of Inventor	Broach	Michael	Eugene		
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Sign	Signature of Inventor 201: Michael Engel Bigack Feb 17, 2004					
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